

**LOCAL HUMAN RIGHTS COMMITTEE**  
**Southside Regional Local Human Rights Committee**  
**Meeting of July 27, 2007**

**\*\*\*DRAFT\*\*\***

**PRESENT**

Mary Ann Jackson, LHRC Chair  
Lynette Jennings, LHRC  
Viola Vaughn-Eden, LHRC  
Stewart Prost, Human Rights Advocate DMHMRSAS  
Jeffrey Burns, Tidewater Psychotherapy Services  
Jim Dekker, Finney Psychotherapy Associates  
Sue Wilson, Pendleton Child Services Center  
Shawn Ware-Avant, Paramount Youth Services  
Nina Joyner, Family Systems II and New Life Programs  
Angelo Morlino, Vito, Inc.  
Steven Waranch, Atlantic Psychiatric Services  
Olivia Robinson-Stagger, Family Net  
Monica Manley, The Barry Robinson Center

**ABSENT**

Chairperson Mary Ann Jackson called the meeting to order at 9:17 a.m. She reported that LHRC members, Bobby Howlett, Jr. and Joyce Bozeman, have resigned from the Committee. Mr. Prost indicated there would probably be a special meeting for the Committee to interview potential members.

**2007 Meeting Dates**

The final 2007 LHRC meeting will be held on October 26, 2007. The Committee also tentatively scheduled a special meeting on August 17, 2007 to interview potential applicants for the Committee and to elect officers.

**Minutes**

The minutes of the April 27, 2007 and May 4, 2007 meetings were reviewed and approved.

**Advocate's Report**

Stewart Prost informed the Committee that secondary to the large growth of providers, three new local human rights committees have been formed. They are the Norfolk Regional Local Human Rights Committee, the Hampton Regional Local Human Rights Committee and the Colonial Regional Local Human Rights Committee, which is located in Williamsburg, Virginia. He also informed the Committee that the Office of Human Rights will be holding a seminar for members of local human rights committees on September 13<sup>th</sup> and 14<sup>th</sup>, 2007 at the Richmond Holiday Inn, Koger Center. He strongly encouraged Committee members to attend the seminar to meet other local human rights members, as well as to gain information and knowledge regarding human rights. Mr. Prost indicated a reception and social gathering will be held on the first evening, and the seminar will be held on the following day from 9:00 a.m. until 4:00 p.m. He reported a mailing would be sent out to all Committee members inviting them to the seminar. Mr. Prost stated that any Committee member who wanted to attend could be

reimbursed from the providers for the committee that they serve. Finally, Mr. Prost reported the revisions of the regulations are in the Governor's office and should be out and open for final comment by next month. He anticipates that thirty (30) days after the final comments, the new regulations will go into effect. Organizations will have six months to implement the necessary policy changes to be in compliance with the regulations. Mr. Prost briefly reported that the revisions primarily address the use of seclusion and restraint and have changed the legal authorized representative to the "authorized representative". In addition, he reported there are some changes to client competency. He stated that when competency or capacity is in doubt, a more thorough evaluation must be done. He also reported that there has been a change in the complaint process. In brief, the complaint process no longer has two levels of "Informal" and "Formal". Once again, he reiterated that the final regulations will be available on the department website.

### **Program Reports**

1. Pendleton Child Services Center – Sue Wilson reported they are currently serving 17 residents in the residential program and 1 child in their day-treatment program. There were no restraints, complaints, or other human rights issues.
2. Tidewater Psychotherapy – Jeff Burns reported they are currently serving 21 clients in 3 substance abuse groups and 49 clients in regular groups. There were no restraints, complaints, or other human rights issues.
3. Finney Psychiatric Associates – Jim Dekker reported they are currently serving 14 adult clients in their intensive outpatient chemical dependency program. There were no restraints, complaints, or other human rights issues.
4. Atlantic Psychiatric Services – Steven Waranch reported they are currently serving 14 patients in their two intensive outpatient chemical dependency groups. There were no restraints, complaints, or other human rights issues.
5. Paramount Youth Services – Shawn Ware-Avant reported they are currently serving 26 residents in four group homes. There were no restraints, complaints, or other human rights issues. She indicated there was one incident that she wanted to discuss during closed session. Ms. Ware-Avant also informed the Committee that she has resigned her position at Paramount Youth Services and her last day will be August 17, 2007. Mr. Damon Sutton will report to the Committee.
6. New Life – Nina Joyner reported they are currently serving 129 intensive in-home clients within New Life. Mary's House has 2 residents. Sister's House has 2 residents. There were no restraints, complaints or other human rights issues. She informed the Committee that they have received a variance to rename Sister's House to the William Stallings Project in which the same clinical services will be provided for adolescent males ages 13-17. They are currently waiting for the license and anticipate the change will be effective August 1, 2007. Therefore, she requested continued temporary affiliation of the William Stallings Project for another 90 days. The Committee moved, seconded and approved the continued temporary affiliation of the Williams Stallings Project for another 90 days.
7. Family Systems II – Nina Joyner reported there are 111 clients receiving intensive in-home services. There were no restraints, complaints or other human rights issues. Ms. Joyner also requested temporary affiliation for the outpatient program and the mental health community support services program pending the receipt of their licenses. A motion was made and seconded for both programs to continue their temporary affiliation

with the LHRC pending receipt of the licenses. Mr. Prost stated if the programs were licensed prior to the October meeting, they would be eligible for permanent affiliation.

8. Vito Inc. – Angelo Morlino reported they are currently serving 70 in-home clients, 22 day support clients and 13 clients are receiving family care giving training. Mr. Morlino reported they are starting up a new center-based day support program and submitted policy revisions to the Committee for review. He identified the changes as being on page 2, Letter H, indicating that the VOPA poster will be displayed, and on page 4, Letter F, that there are adequate bathroom facilities. Therefore, he was seeking temporary affiliation to the Committee pending receipt of the license. He informed the Committee that he had recently received a letter from the Department of Human Rights indicating that the Center-based Day Program Human Rights Policies and Procedures were complete and in compliance with the rules and regulations of DMHMRSAS. A motion was made and seconded for the program to be temporarily affiliated with the LHRC. Mr. Prost stated if the program is licensed prior to the October meeting, it would be eligible for permanent affiliation.
9. Family Net – Olivia Robinson-Stagger reported they currently have 10 clients receiving in-home services. There were no restraints, complaints or other human rights issues
10. The Barry Robinson Center – In-home Services – Dr. Monica Manley reported 85 families are receiving in-home services and 5 adolescents are participating in the outpatient substance abuse program. There were no restraints, complaints or other human rights issues.
11. The Barry Robinson Center – The LHRC reviewed The Barry Robinson Center's statistical reports regarding structured living, reports to licensing/Human Rights and special treatment procedure utilization.

### **Executive Session**

A motion was made and passed that the LHRC enter into an Executive Session pursuant to Virginia Code Section 2.2-3711 (A) for the purpose of reviewing one incident that occurred at Paramount Youth Center and The Barry Robinson Center's occurrence report.

### **Exit Executive Session**

Upon reconvening into public session, the LHRC unanimously certified to the best of each member's knowledge, only public matters, lawfully exempt from statutory open meeting requirements, and only public business matters identified to the motion to reconvene this session, the Executive Session, were discussed in the Executive Session.

After reconvening into public session, the Southside Regional Local Human Rights Committee indicated they made no recommendations regarding the one incident at Paramount Youth Center or any of the occurrences at The Barry Robinson Center.

The meeting was adjourned at 10:30 a.m.